

DAVID G. REICHERT  
8TH DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-4708**

September 17, 2007

Mr. Dennis Rivera  
Chairman  
Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Health Care  
1800 Massachusetts Avenue, 8th Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Rivera:

Several of my constituents informed me that they received automated telephone calls from your organization that misrepresent my support for children's and seniors' health care. I ask that you immediately stop these dishonest automated calls and issue a formal statement to all of the 8<sup>th</sup> District residents you contacted apologizing for the misinformation that you spread.

Your automated calls falsely informed thousands of my constituents that during consideration of a House bill to renew the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), I "sided with tobacco companies" and opposed "strengthening Medicare for seniors" and "health care for children." Nothing could be further from the truth.

In fact, I helped lead the fight to reauthorize the SCHIP program for children without cutting any Medicare benefits for seniors. The measure I supported renews and expands SCHIP by increasing the tobacco tax instead of by slashing Medicare health coverage for 133,000 seniors in Washington State and cutting billions of dollars from seniors' nursing home care, dialysis services, and home health benefits. This measure, which passed overwhelmingly in the Senate, provides for children and protects our seniors without needlessly forcing a choice between providing health care for these two vulnerable populations.

It is important for all voices and opinions to be heard in our political system, for freedom of speech is at the foundation of our democracy. But it is inappropriate for organizations to hijack our nation's political discourse with false and misleading attacks that are intended to deceive the public. The residents of Washington's 8<sup>th</sup> District deserve to form their opinions based on issues and facts, not deceitful rhetoric. I urge you to stop this misleading telephone campaign, and look forward to your prompt reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Reichert".  
DAVE REICHERT  
Member of Congress